

MAR 08 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO RESTRICT THE DEVELOPMENT
OF ANOTHER DAIRY FARM ON THE CURRENT BIG ISLAND DAIRY SITE
IN OOKALA, HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, for the last seven years, the Big Island Dairy has
2 been wantonly polluting the land surrounding its dairy farm
3 located in Ookala, Hawaii; and
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5 WHEREAS, residents of Ookala have long complained about
6 releases of manure-laden water from the Big Island Dairy into
7 the nearby gulches that run through or next to the Ookala
8 community; and
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10 WHEREAS, a discharge in May 2018 released more than two
11 million gallons of rain and wastewater during a period of three
12 days; and
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14 WHEREAS, in August 2018, heavy rain from Hurricane Lane
15 caused a wastewater pond at the Dairy to overflow, sending
16 untreated effluent into a nearby gulch; and
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18 WHEREAS, on December 24, 2018, the Big Island Dairy
19 discharged nearly six hundred thousand gallons of wastewater
20 into Kaohaoha Gulch; and
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22 WHEREAS, a lawsuit was filed against the Big Island Dairy
23 alleging violations of the Federal Clean Water Act, and the Big
24 Island Dairy has since reached a legal settlement and must shut
25 down dairy operations on or about April 30, 2019; and
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27 WHEREAS, the land of the former Big Island Dairy is still
28 currently polluted and should remain unused for dairy purposes;
29 now, therefore,
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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
32 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of



S.C.R. NO. 48

1 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Agriculture
2 is urged to disallow any other dairy from operating on the same
3 site as the Big Island Dairy located in Ookala, Hawaii; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
6 urged to not issue any environmental permits for the current Big
7 Island Dairy site located in Ookala, Hawaii; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
11 Board of Agriculture and Director of Health.
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13
14

OFFERED BY:

Marion L. George
Clarence K. Mishioka

